

Serial No. 10/077,367

**REMARKS**

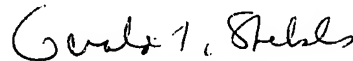
In the above-identified office action, the Examiner has indicated that claim 18 would be allowable if written in independent form including all limitations of the base claim. Applicant has done that with the above amendment and cancelled claims 1-12. As such, Applicant believes the application now be in condition for allowance.

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments and remarks, this application is considered ready for allowance and Applicant earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.



Gerald T. Shekleton

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Date: April 26, 2004

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